



Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology Influenza Weekly Report Arkansas 2015-2016

Week Ending Saturday 10/31/2015

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During flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces this Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza-like illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the US. ADH receives detailed reports of only a small fraction of flu cases. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows.

Report Key points:

- Since October 4th, 2015, there were over 145 positive influenza antigen tests that have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers, in week 43 reports received from Baxter, Benton, Carroll, Craighead, Dallas, Faulkner, Fulton, Garland, Izard, Lonoke, Marion, Poinsett, Pulaski, Sebastian, Washington, and White.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 59% were A, and 41% were B.
- Out of 5 samples tested at ADH lab last week by PCR testing, one type A influenza has been confirmed from Cross County.
- About 2.8% of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were for ILI. Less than 1% in outpatients visits.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 5.8%.
- Nationwide, and for week 42, the geographic spread of influenza in Guam and one state was reported as regional activity; six states reported local activity; Puerto Rico and 35 states reported sporadic activity; and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and eight states reported no influenza activity.
- Arkansas reported “Sporadic” activity to CDC for week 43.
- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at:
<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx>

For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:

Google Flu Trends: Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, <http://www.google.org/flutrends/us/#US>.

World Health Organization FluNet: Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available at http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html.

CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - WeeklyReport: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> and flu activity surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>

Flu near you: <https://flunearyou.org/>. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

2015-2016 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 43: 10/25/15 - 10/31/15)

Death Report for Week 43

- Deaths from all causes: 617
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 49
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 10/4/2015

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 0

ER Visits*

- Week Ending: 10/31/2015**
Weighted Average: 2.8% (34 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 10,882
– Visits with ILI: 305
- Previous Week**
Weighted Average: 4.2% (36 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 12,671
– Visits with ILI: 531

*% is the number of ILI visits*100/Total Visits

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- PCR Confirmed:**
– Cumulative: 0
– Week ending 10/31/2015: 0
- ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
– Cumulative: 30
– Week ending 10/31/2015: 13

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/4/2015: 3
- Week Ending 10/31/2015: 1

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week43	Other Labs Week43	Cumulative Cases Since 10/4/2015
A+	1	0	1
B+	0	0	0
B/Victoria	0	0	0
B/ Yamagata	0	0	0
H1N1+	0	0	0
H3+	0	0	2
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	1	0	3
Negative	4	--	

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/4/2015

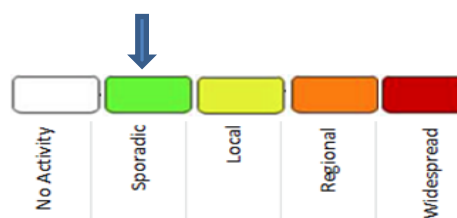
Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	0	0	0
5-18 yr	0	0	0
19-24 yr	0	0	0
25-49 yr	0	0	0
50-64 yr	1	0	0
>= 65 yr	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	3	0	0

School Absenteeism*

- Week Ending: 10/31/2015
– Percent Absent: 5.57
– Previous week: 6.01

* Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 43:



Weekly School Absenteeism Rates, Arkansas Public Schools

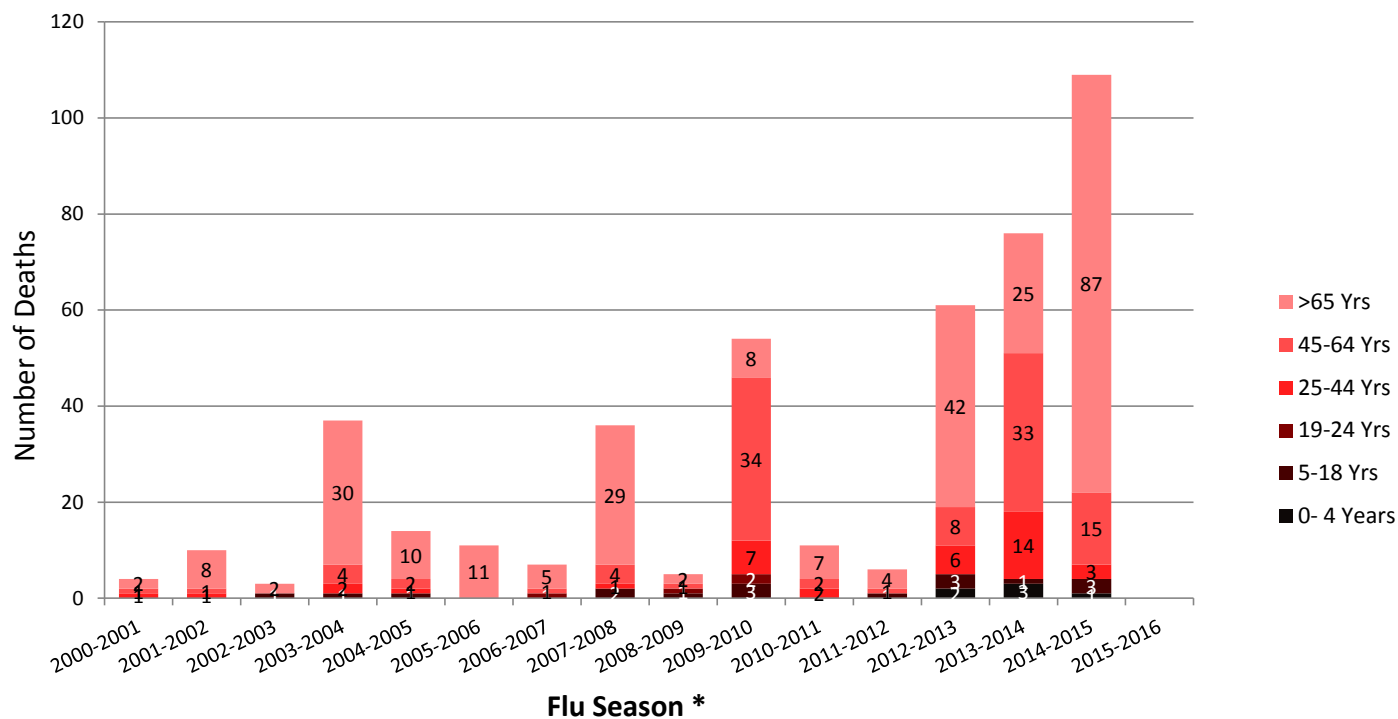
The chart displays weekly absenteeism rates across three years. The 2015-16 season (red line with triangles) shows a significant peak in late October, reaching approximately 11.7% in week 48. The 2014-15 season (blue line with circles) shows a peak in week 7 at approximately 8.8%. The average 2010-15 season (green line with diamonds) shows a peak in week 16 at approximately 5.4%. The off-season baseline (yellow dashed line) is set at 5.0%.

Week	Month	2014-15 (%)	2015-16 (%)	Average 2010-15 (%)
40	Oct	5.8	5.8	4.8
41	Oct	5.8	6.0	4.9
42	Oct	5.8	6.0	5.0
43	Oct	5.8	5.5	4.9
44	Oct	5.8	5.5	5.0
45	Oct	6.0	5.5	5.0
46	Oct	6.2	5.5	5.2
47	Oct	6.5	7.5	7.5
48	Oct	11.7	7.5	7.5
49	Oct	6.0	5.2	5.2
50	Oct	6.2	5.5	5.4
51	Oct	6.5	6.0	5.8
1	Nov	6.8	6.8	6.4
2	Nov	8.0	6.5	6.5
3	Nov	7.8	6.8	6.6
4	Nov	7.5	6.5	6.5
5	Nov	7.8	6.8	6.7
6	Nov	7.0	6.8	6.8
7	Nov	8.8	6.5	6.4
8	Nov	7.5	6.5	6.4
9	Nov	7.0	5.8	5.8
10	Nov	6.2	5.8	5.8
11	Nov	6.2	6.2	6.2
12	Nov	5.5	5.2	5.2
13	Nov	6.2	5.5	5.5
14	Nov	6.0	5.2	4.9
15	Nov	6.2	4.5	4.3
16	Nov	6.5	5.2	5.4
17	Nov	6.2	5.2	5.2
18	Nov	6.0	5.2	5.2
19	Nov	6.2	5.2	5.2
20	Nov	6.5	5.5	5.5
21	Nov	8.5	6.2	6.2
22	Nov			
23	Dec			
24	Dec			
25	Dec			
26	Dec			
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34	Dec			
35	Dec			
36	Dec			
37	Dec			
38	Dec			
39	Dec			

Date: November 3, 2015
Source:
Arkansas Department of Health
Author: Haytham Safi, Epidemiologist

Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2016 (Provisional)

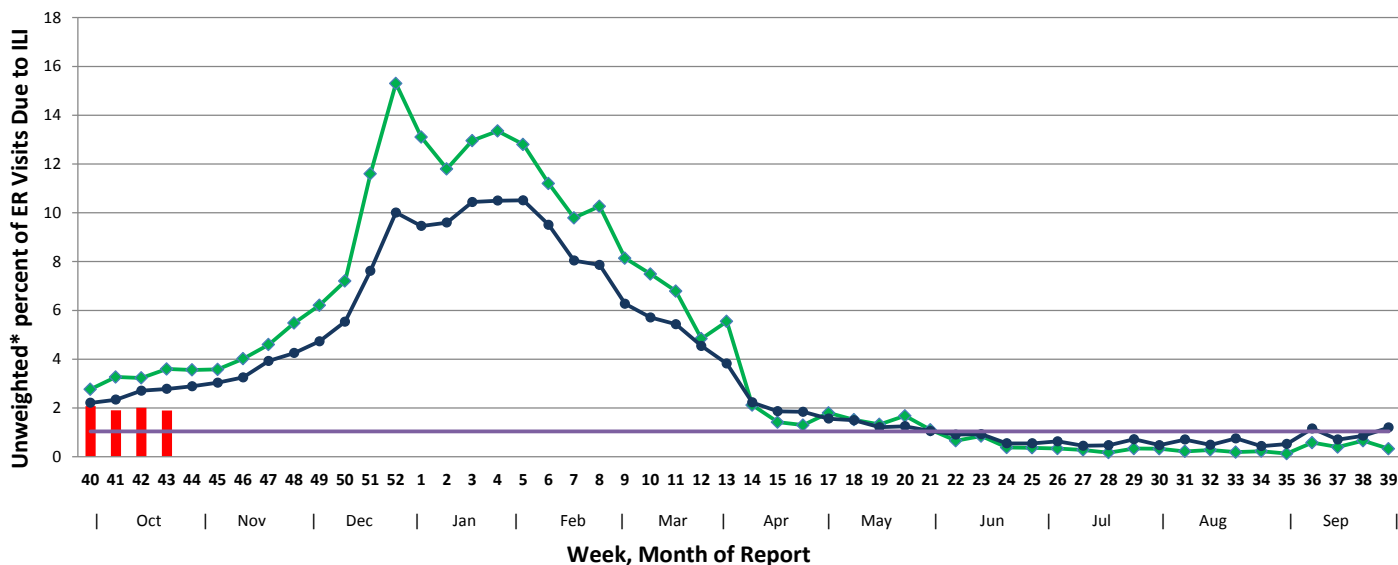
Report Updated: 10/13/2015



* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

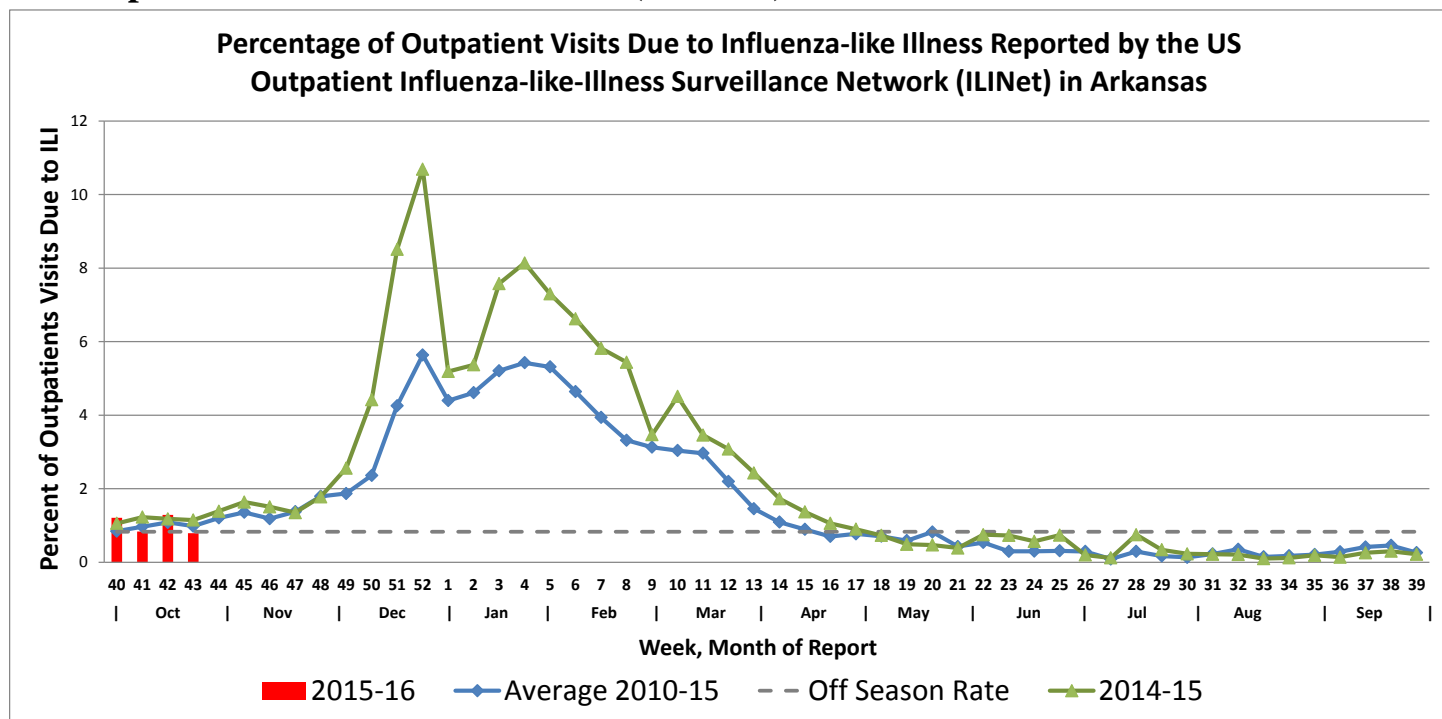
Hospital Report – ER Visits With Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)

ER Visits Due to ILI, Arkansas Hospitals

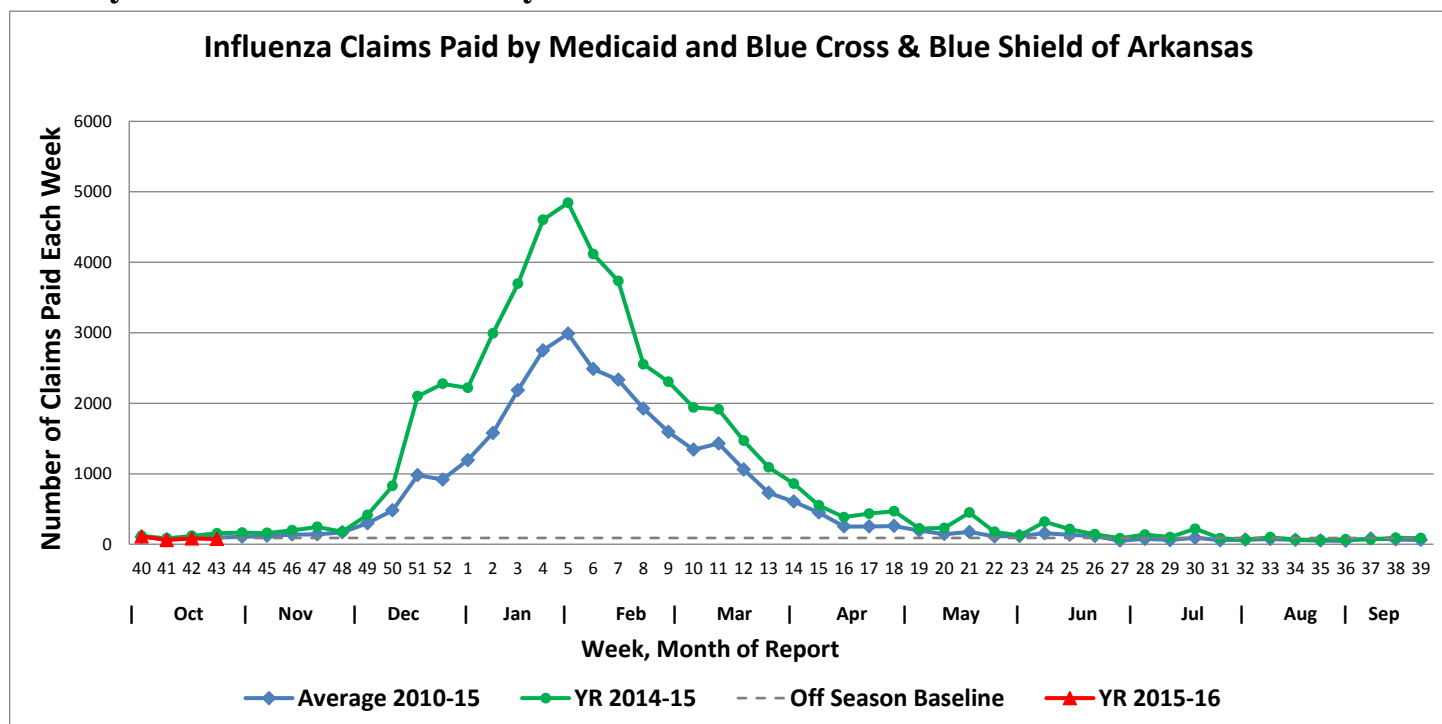


* Mean Rate of daily percent

US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

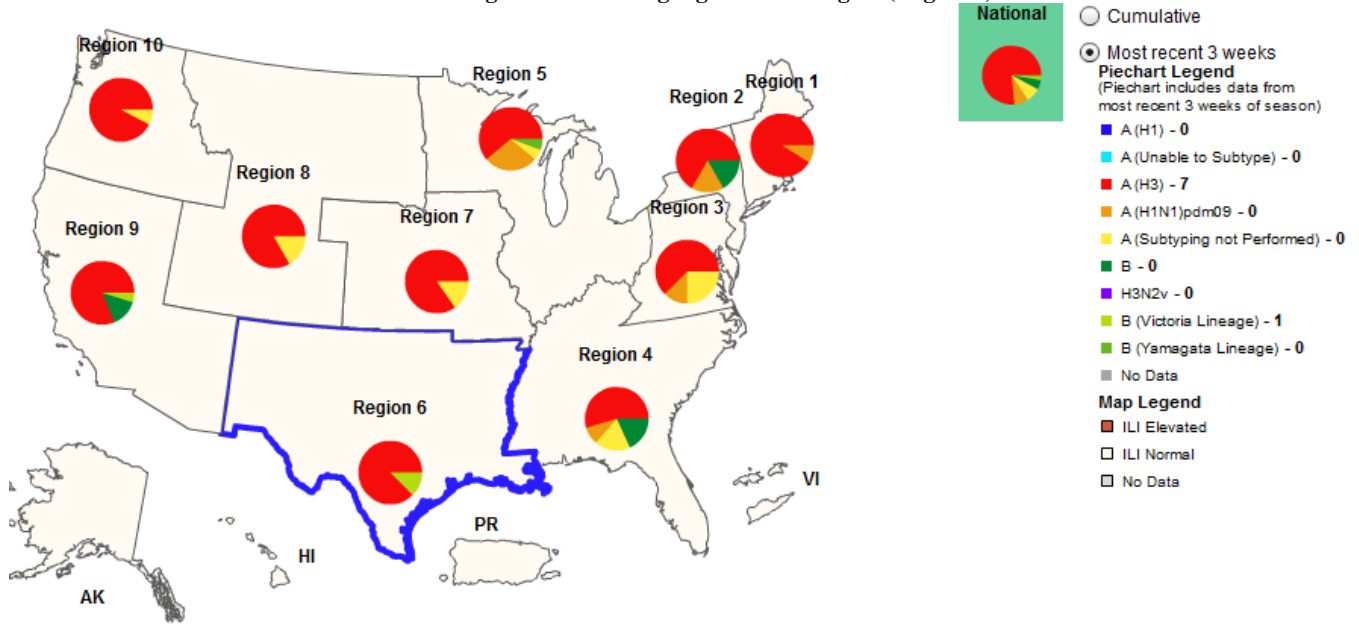


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS

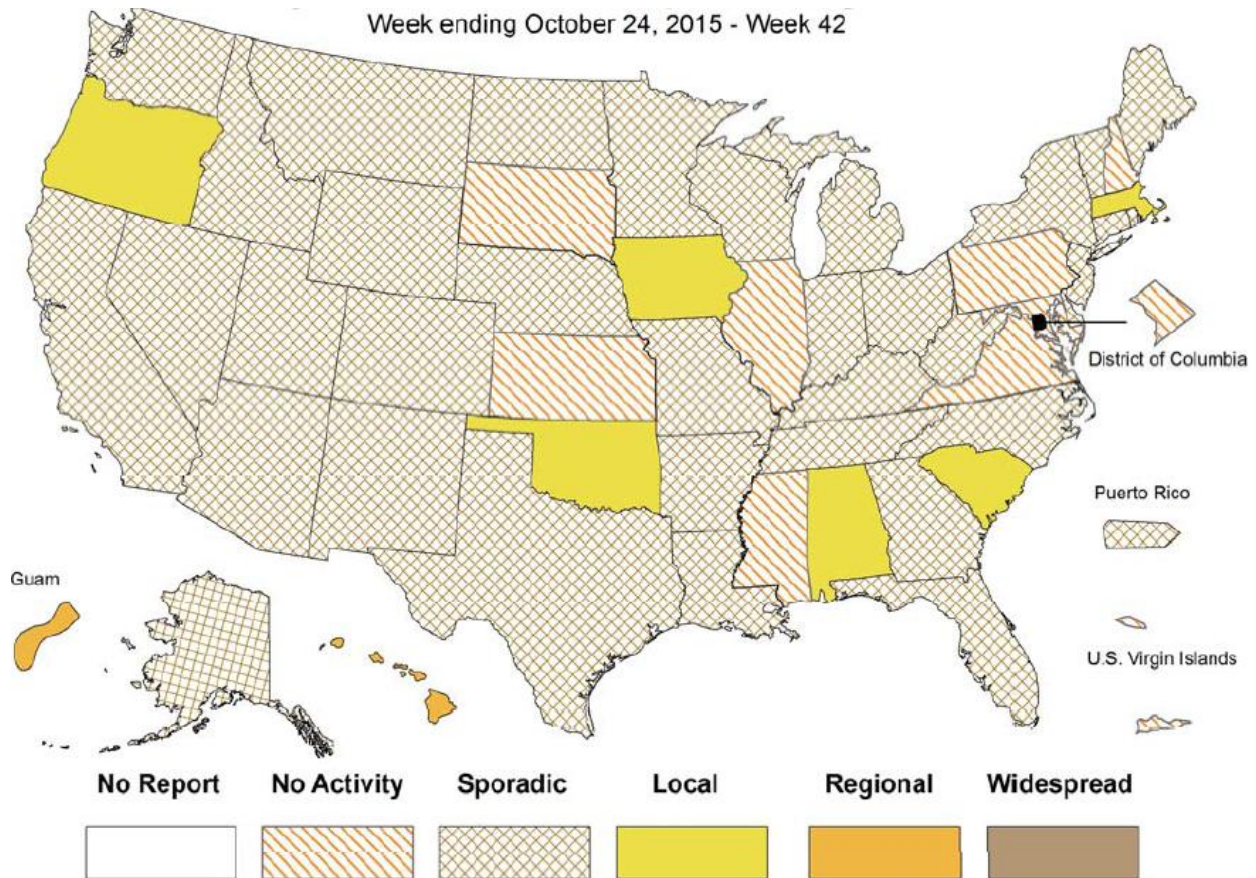


Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2015-2016 Season, Week Ending Oct 23, 2015

Values in legend is for the highlighted HHS region (Region 6)

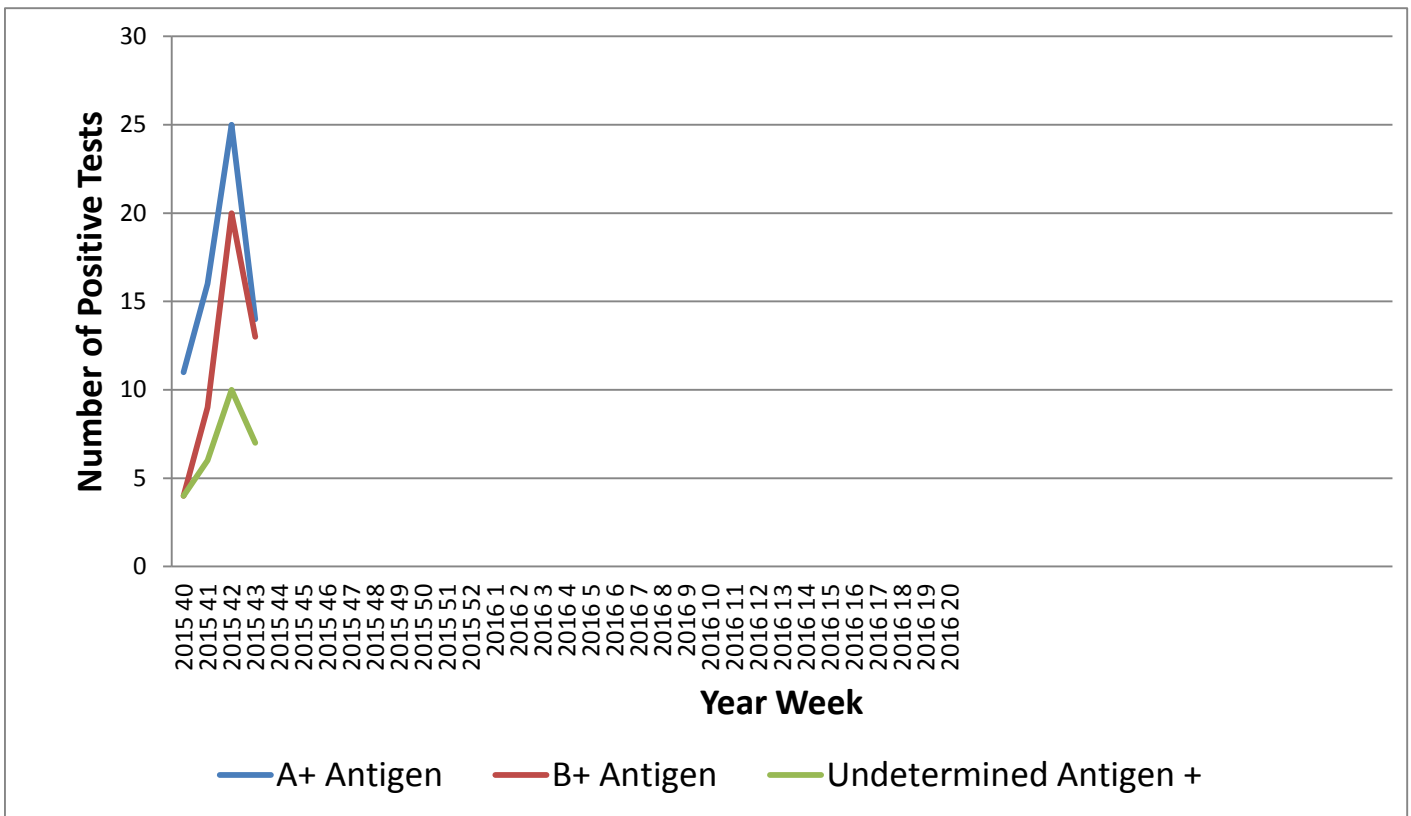
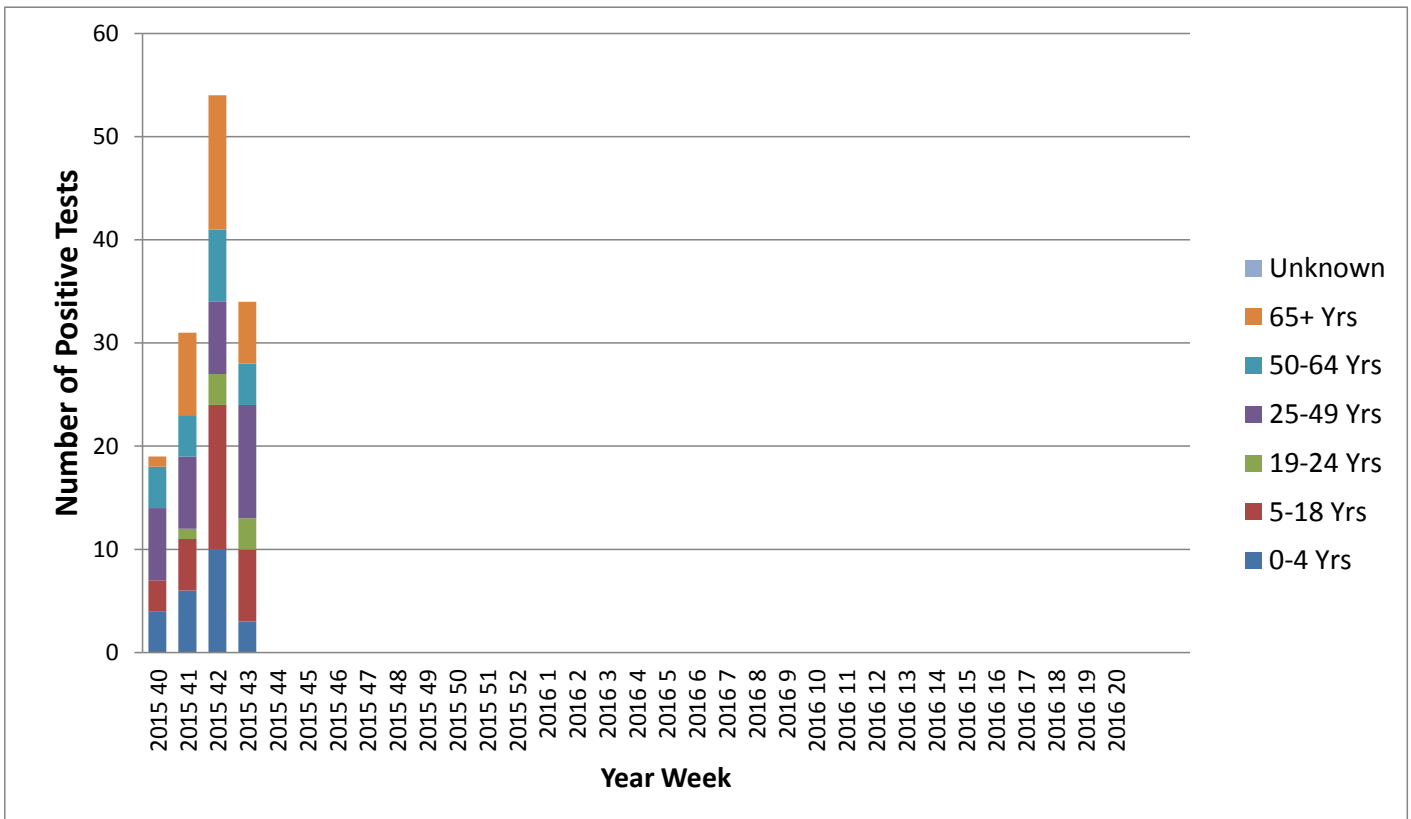


Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists



Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 43: Sporadic

Antigen Report:



Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories,
National Summary, 2015-16 Season

